

The Homesteads Newsletter

Issue 1

July/August, 2005



Grant Home (tenant house on the Holmes Farm)

2nd Apalachin Residence to Open Soon

Sounds of hammers and saws are ringing out as we rip out old walls, put in cupboards and bathrooms and create another home for assisted living in Apalachin.

This house is adjacent to the Barton Home and was once occupied by the tenant farmer on the Holmes Farm.

The Grant Home will have two semi-private and two private rooms with half-baths for the new residents. As with the other three Homestead locations, we will offer a pleasant, cheerful atmosphere with fireplaces and a feeling of "being home".

History of The Homesteads

The original homestead had its beginning around 1750 as a log cabin built by John Holmes on several hundred acres. The structure as we see it today was completed in the mid-1800's. The farm was a self-contained community with several out-buildings serving as a smokehouse, ice house, potato cellar, carriage house, office, and two barns.

A pond provided water for the livestock as well as hours of fun for the townsfolk as they joined together for winter skating parties with bonfires, games and barrel jumping contests.

Work was never a stranger, of course, but sheep shearing and harvesting were especially busy times.

When Grant Holmes died in 1970, he left the homestead and what remained of the property to his great niece, Connie Barton, and in 1993 the first assisted-living resident arrived at "*Connie's Home For Adults.*" Later the name was changed to "*The Homesteads*" (regrettably "*Holmes Homestead*" just didn't work). The new residence will be named "*The Grant Home*" in remembrance of his generosity which made all this possible.

"*The Sammick Home*" in Endwell was the second to open, followed by "*The Wood Home*" in Johnson City, and both will be featured in upcoming newsletters.

The Resident Operator of the Barton Home is Connie Barton and the House Manager is Alison Wagner, who has been with The Homesteads for many years.

Days Gone By

Memories can often be a mixture of happiness and nostalgia. One of our residents, *Grace Prentice*, recalls when she would hitch a ride on a horse-drawn milk wagon to go to school in the mornings. Then if she was lucky, she'd catch a



ride on the mail wagon to get home at night!

Ahh, those were the good ol' days!!!

Little Things Mean A Lot!

Alison wanted to make July 4th special. Everyone was staying home so she decided that the "fireworks" would be candles on a big cake decorated with red, white and blue fruit. It was greatly enjoyed by all!



Barton Home (Holmes Farmhouse)

Bed Availability

- Sammick:** Two semi-private beds on first floor
Wood: One private room and one semi-private bed on first floor
Grant: One private room and four semi-private beds on first floor

Call our main office at 607-625-3658 for rates.

Featured Caregiver



Stephenie Brown first joined us in 1996 and has been immensely helpful in every aspect of establishing and operating The Homesteads. She is always the first volunteer to pick up a hammer, clean the windows, and mow the grass. Steph has led an interesting life, starting out as an army "brat" and traveling throughout the world. After a marriage of 31 years, Steph's husband, Lee, died last year. They have four children, nine grandchildren and one due to arrive at the end of the year. She was the obvious choice when we needed a dependable, hard-working and caring person to operate the new Wood Home which opened last Fall. Although she loves to cook wonderful meals for the residents, Steph confesses she could live on gummy bears and junk food!



Thank you, Steph! You're great!

Remember that alcohol and many medications do not mix. Please be extra careful as to what you give your loved ones; it's better to be safe than sorry! **NO ACOHOL FOR OUR PEOPLE, PLEASE!!!!!!!**



Thoughts from Connie.....

Welcome to the latest new addition to the Homesteads' services – our Newsletter! We offer all we can with love and a smile. The editor, Ann Barton, is my sister who is retired and living in Florida. Two of my daughters, Michelle and Lynn, are full-time employees here at The Homesteads, so this truly is a family endeavor.



To receive our newsletter via e-mail, please send your request to us at TheHomesteadsLLC@aol.com or visit us at our website at TheHomesteadsLLC.com.

Connie Barton, Owner

Coming Up! It's time to start making vacation plans. All include supervision, of course.

Pocono's Package: Aug. 21, 22, 23; or 23, 24, 25; or 25, 26, 27. 3 days in condo suite with lovely mountain views and pool. Includes 1 dinner and 2 lunches out, sightseeing, snacks and transportation..... **\$245 per person**

Tioga Scenic Railroad: July date to be determined. Includes train ride, lunch & transportation. **\$45 per person**

Annual Family Picnic: August 13th. At Hickories Park. Pavilion #5. All afternoon; all welcome. Please bring your own place settings and silver, plus a dish to pass. Rain or shine!!!

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Postage

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